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**HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

Substitute for Engrossed House Bill No. 313 by Representative Honore as proposed by the House Committee on Judiciary

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**This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.**

To enact R.S. 15:85.4, relative to posting of criminal bonds; to provide for an increase in fees assessed for criminal bonds in Baton Rouge; to provide for collection of fees by the constable of the Baton Rouge City Court; to provide for allocation of funds to the constable's fund; to provide for use of funds for the operational expenses of the constable's office; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:85.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§85.4. Posting of criminal bonds; Baton Rouge City constable's office; additional fee assessed

A. An additional fee of thirty-five dollars shall be assessed for every criminal bond posted in the city court of Baton Rouge. This fee shall be in addition to any other fees or fines provided by law. Any person seeking release by means of a criminal bond, or his designated representative, shall pay the fee to the constable for the Baton Rouge City Court who shall deposit the funds in the constable's fund for the city court of Baton Rouge.

B. The monies collected pursuant to the provisions of Subsection A of this Section shall be used to supplement the operational expenses of the Baton Rouge constable's office. The expenditure of the funds shall be at the sole discretion of the constable of the court.

C. Any person found not guilty or any person against whom criminal charges are brought and thereafter dismissed may petition the city court of Baton Rouge for a refund of the fee assessed pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

D. The assessment and disposition of any funds pursuant to this Section shall not affect the responsibilities of the city and parish governing authority provided by law for the financing of the constable's office of the city court of Baton Rouge.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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**Abstract:** Authorizes an increase in fees for criminal bonds posted in the Baton Rouge City Court to supplement the operational expenses of the constable's office.

Proposed law authorizes a fee increase of \$35 for all criminal bonds posted in the city court of Baton Rouge to be collected by the constable for deposit into the constable's fund.

Proposed law requires the additional fees to be used to supplement the operational expenses for the constable's office, at the sole discretion of the constable.

Proposed law authorizes any person to petition the court for a refund of the fee if the person is found not guilty or the criminal charges have been dismissed.

Proposed law provides that the financing of the marshal's office by the city and parish governing authorities shall not be affected by the increase in fees.

(Adds R.S. 15:85.4)